

ABSTRACT

Impeller blades and a method for designing impeller blades wherein the blades comprise a plurality of specially designed airfoil sections, each section having along substantially the entire length thereof, a cross-sectional shape characterized by a maximum thickness located substantially constantly between about 16% chord to about 23% chord and a maximum camber located substantially constantly between about 40% chord to about 51% chord. The blades are designed so that the axial width of the blades is decreased while maintaining performance parameters and design constraints.